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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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4. Location: Two kilometers west of the town in the NNW end of the Stadt Forst. NE border of the field is the Perleberg-Sükow highway, paralleled by a rail spur. SE border is the Wittenberge-Perleberg road, also paralleled by a rail spur. NW are cultivated fields; SW, the Stadt Forst. Total field area: 1.5 x 3 kilometers. It is well camouflaged against air and ground observation.
5. Facilities: Five hangars are in good condition and full operation. Hangar 5 appears to be a workshop. Also: a motor testing stand, control building and tower with radio and weather equipment, one small unused hangar, and a number of barracks and houses in the wooded area.
6. Runways, Fuel: The field has a well-kept grass surface. There are no concrete, asphalt, or other runways. The fuel depot is at the NE side of the field, along the highway and approximately one kilometer south of Sükow. It consists of a large number of partially-buried tanks which appear to be dismantled tank cars. This area is protected by earth walls. A rail line

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connects it with Perleberg. The dump is surrounded by a high barbed wire fence and is guarded by mobile patrols.

7. Strength: On 3 August 1948, forty aircraft were distributed over the Perleberg field as follows:

Hangar 1	-	closed
" 2	-	3 PO-2, 5 YAK-9
" 3	-	3 YAK-9
" 5	-	12 YAK-9
" 6	-	13 YAK-9

Dispersal area, under camouflage nets - 4 YAK-9

All the above planes were seen on outside aprons; the number of planes within the hangars could not be determined.

8. Activity: The field is used primarily for night fighter training, with YAK-9's flying from dusk to dawn. The runway is illuminated for each take-off, then blacked out. A searchlight south of the town is brought into play for landings: as planes approach, a vertical beam is rocked back and forth a few times and then turned out. Flights take place over the Perleberg-Wittenberge area.

9. Techniques:

a. Take-offs, landings, and acrobatics were well executed and flight discipline was unusually good. Comparing these pilots to Soviet wartime night fighters, source believes that those at Perleberg may be rated among the elite.

b. Tow target shooting was carried out near the field.

c. In stunting, the YAK-9 landing gear showed a tendency to flip out.

10. According to local residents (there has been considerable fraternization with German girls), the Soviet pilots are now restricted to the field and are constantly on call. Source saw no air force personnel in the town. At the field, aircraft were ready for flight and were warmed up hourly. The general impression was of a field ready for emergency use.

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